

PRESIDENT: Do I see five seconds? I do. The question is shall debate now cease. Record your vote. Have you voted? Record.

CLERK: 15 ayes, 14 nays.

PRESIDENT: Senator Fitzgerald.

SENATOR FITZGERALD: Mr. Speaker, members. Would Senator Lewis yield to a question? Could you explain to me how this will effect some counties?

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Senator Fitzgerald, I'd be more than happy to respond to that question. Senator Fitzgerald,... Mr. Chairman, we seem to have a lack of decorum in here.

PRESIDENT: You're going to have a lack of a presiding officer shortly too.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Don't ask me to comment on that. Mr. President, to bring the amendment back into its proper focus and to determine what we're trying to do, and it is a serious amendment, it is an amendment that is advantageous to 27 or 28 legislative districts in here. I think you better bear that in mind. It is not an attempt to do anything except to put the cards out as they are. We're talking about a substantial amendment, we're talking about a matter of tremendous economic import to this state. Let me tell you how tremendous and how important this is. So that the information that I would have would be correct, I asked a member of our research staff some factual questions. I asked him to compare how much money, actual receipts for '74-'75, was paid out in personal property tax by county. I asked him what would happen if this were amended with the Lewis amendment. I asked him the anticipated receipts in 1980. I asked him to compute that on the provisions of LB 518. Then I asked him to compute that on the basis of the Lewis amendment. We found out that Adams County, for instance, would receive in 1980 a quarter of a million dollars more under the proposal I advocate. We found out that Buffalo County would receive almost \$150,000 more under the proposal I advocate. We found out that Cass County would almost double and receive \$300,000 more under the proposal I advocate. We found that Dakota County would almost double. We found out that Douglas County would double from \$9 million to \$18 million. Yes, Senator Marsh, this is one you're interested in. Lancaster County, for the citizens and all the people in Lancaster County, it would go from \$3,500,000 to \$7,900,000. In Madison County from \$933,000 to \$1,292,000, \$300,000 more. Let's discuss what the issue is. The issue we've already conceded is not whether or not we're going to eliminate personal property tax under 518. So those people that have pressured you to vote for it, the car dealers, the farmers, the rest of those people, they get their relief anyway, you understand that, either under my amendment or the Schmit bill. But the rebate is what we're talking about. We're talking about putting the rebate on somewhat more of a fair basis than it is now. In plain, political talk it is an advantage to people in 27 legislative districts, for the people of their district, that that be done. So don't misinterpret what we're attempting to do. We are not attempting to defeat the personal property tax. We are not attempting to do anything in terms of the removal of that. We are talking about the shift of money. We're talking about what is the most advantageous shift for most of the members. I think it will do some hard explaining, and with